CLAIMS

1. (previously presented)   A method for issuing a parental monitoring query command for determining a media object being rendered on a remote device, comprising the steps of:

transmitting, from a monitoring device, a query requesting identification information for a media object being multicasted through a multicast group to a remote device from a host device;

receiving multicast information in response to said query, wherein said multicast information indicates a multicast address and port which is used to multicast said media object through the multicast group to the remote device from the host device;

joining the multicast group with said received multicast information to receive said media object;

resolving said multicast address and port information to identify attributes of said media object; and

providing, from the monitoring device, a leave command to the host device to remove said remote device from said multicast group if said media object is objectionable so that receipt of said media object by said remote device is disabled in real-time.

2. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said media object is rendered on said monitoring device.

Claims 3-4 (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said monitoring device is an Internet Protocol enabled set top box.

6. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said monitoring device uses a channel list that maps said multicast address and port to a channel.

7. (original) The method of Claim 6, wherein a program guide is used to select media objects transmitted via a multicast media object corresponding to said channel.

8. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said media

object is transmitted as part of an Internet Group Management compatible protocol multicasting service and program identification information is available for said media object as part of a Session Description compatible protocol.

9. (original) The method of Claim 8, wherein said resolving step uses IGMP data obtained from a middleware server.

10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, where said query additionally comprises:

a request for a browser history log file, wherein said log file comprises the IP addresses of media objects accessed by said remote device.

11. (original)   The method of Claim 10, wherein said remote device is a personal computer.

12.   (previously presented) An apparatus for issuing a parental monitoring query command for determining a media object being rendered on a remote device, comprising:

a network interface that issues a query requesting identification information for a media object being multicasted through a multicast group to a remote device from a host device, joins the multicast group with multicast information received in response to said query to receive said media object, and provides a leave command to the host device to remove the remote device from the multicast group if said media object is objectionable so that receipt of said media object by said remote device is disabled in real-time;

a transport decoder that processes said multicast information in response to said query, wherein said multicast information indicates a multicast address and port which is used to multicast said media object through said multicast group to said remote device from said host device; and

a data transport decoder that resolves said multicast address and port information to identify attributes of said media object.

13.   (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said media object is rendered on said apparatus.

Claims 14-15 (canceled)

16. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 13, wherein said apparatus uses a channel list that maps said multicast address and port to a channel.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein a program guide is used to select media objects transmitted via a multicast media object corresponding to said channel.

18. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said media object is transmitted as part of an Internet Group Management compatible protocol multicasting service and program identification information is available for said media object as part of a Session Description compatible protocol.

19. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 12, where said query additionally comprises:
a request for a browser history log file, wherein said log file comprises the IP addresses of media objects accessed by said remote device.